

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/487,728 ✓

Applicant(s)

SHIMA, TOSHIHIRO

Examiner

CHAN S. PARK

Art Unit

2622

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 10/3/05.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1,2,4-6,8-10 and 12-20.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

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EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Allison M. Tulino, Reg. No. 48,294 on December 7, 2005.

2. The application has been amended as follows:

Claim 19, line 1, "according to claim 3" should be -- according to claim 1 --; and

Claim 20, line 1, "according to claim 7" should be -- according to claim 5 --.

ALLOWANCE

Response to Amendment

3. Applicant's amendment was received on 10/3/05, and has been entered and made of record. Currently, **claims 1, 2, 4-6, 8-10 and 12-20** are pending.

Drawings

4. The corrected or substitute drawings were received on 10/3/05. The drawings are acceptable.

Response to Arguments

5. Applicant's arguments, see pages 17-19, filed 10/3/05, with respect to Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) and 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) have been fully considered and are persuasive. The Rejections have been withdrawn.

Allowable Subject Matter

6. **Claims 1, 2, 4-6, 8-10 and 12-20** are allowed. These claims will be renumbered as 1-17.

7. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Along with other limitations in each of all independent claims, the claims define a network printer comprising a print set up reference means for employing a configuration file generated by configuration file generation means, to generate a menu indicating contents of a print setup in a document file, and for transmitting said menu via transfer means to a host computer,

wherein, when said computer operates said menu, contents of said print setup are updated in accordance with the operation, and

wherein said menu includes upper directories that are generated for individual entries in said print setup, and lower directories that are generated for individual setup values, one of which is included in each of said entries, and wherein said menu is formed by correlating visual display elements corresponding to said computer document file with said lower directories. These limitations/species are depicted in figs. 4 & 8 of the Drawings.

The claims distinguish over the prior art in that the menu, which is generated and transmitted by the network, includes upper directories that are generated for individual entries in said print setup, and lower directories that are generated for individual setup values, one of which is included in each of said entries, and wherein said menu is formed by correlating visual display elements corresponding to said computer document

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file with said lower directories. The claimed combination provides user to change the print setup by moving a job icon to a desired setup value directory (or lower directory) as described at specification page 15, lines 5-6.

The most relevant prior art Enokida et al. (US 6,335,746 B1) teaches a print file management system for managing the print file in accordance with the type of each print file (fig. 4). However, Enokida does not teach the applicant's claimed combination of generating and transmitting the menu from the network printer and having both upper and lower directories.

8. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Contact Information


9. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to CHAN S. PARK whose telephone number is (571) 272-7409. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8am-4:30pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Edward Coles can be reached on (571) 272-7402. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

csp
December 7, 2005

Chan S. Park
Examiner
Art Unit 2622


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